

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE 2950

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

JCS WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5780

E.O. 11652: 12-31-79

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: NATO SPECIALIZATION STUDIES - SUB-GROUP AIR

REFS: A) STATE 216004; B) STATE 213258

1. A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE NETHERLANDS DELEGATION HAS INFORMED MISOFF THAT THE NETHERLANDS TENTATIVELY PLANS TO MAKE A PROPOSAL POSSIBLY AT OR BEFORE THE DECEMBER DPC MINISTERIAL, ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

QUOTE. ---IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE NOW (UPON COMPLETION OF THE NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE F-104 REPLACEMENT STUDY) TO STUDY CONFIDENTIAL

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THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SPECIALIZATION OF AIR FORCES IN MORE GENERAL TERMS, I.E. AREAS MIGHT NOW BE IDENTIFIED WHERE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE AGGREGATE OF NATO AIR FORCES COULD BE INCREASED THROUGH SPECIALIZATION --- AND THAT IT

MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE AIR SUB-GROUP TO MAKE A SURVEY OF POSSIBLE AREAS FOR SPECIALIZATION. SPECIALIZATION IS MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED IF IT IS IMPLEMENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INTRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW EQUIPMENT. PROMISING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE COULD BE, FOR EXAMPLE ECM SUPPORT AIRCRAFT; AEW/AWACS, OR FUTURE SAM. UNQUOTE.

2. THE DUTCH THINK THAT, FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF THEIR RECENT SPECIALIZATION INITIATIVE, THE NEW NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL MAY BE INTERPRETED BY ALLIES AS BEING SELF-SERVING AGAIN, WHEREAS THEY DO NOT INTEND IT TO BE. THEY WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE U.S. SUPPORT.

3. MISSION ADVISED NETHERLANDS REPRESENTATIVE THAT DETAILED U.S. PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER AIR SPECIALIZATION STUDY WOULD PROBABLY BE FORTHCOMING BUT NOT IN TIME FOR DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. SPECIFICALLY, HOWEVER, MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER USG IS OPPOSED TO DUTCH PROPOSAL, OR CAN RENDER TACIT OR FULL SUPPORT. REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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